

Testimony of

**Toni Fox**

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Before the

Education Committee

March 1, 2023

Good afternoon, Senator McCrory, Representative Currey, Senator Berthel, Representative McCarty, and members of the Education Committee.

I testify today in support of the caps on class sizes proposed in Senate Bill 1093, which would take an important step in ensuring that classrooms are places where students can learn, and educators can teach.

I have been teaching for 24 years.

When I first started, my school received a grant from smaller class sizes. The grant was for 15 students per class in grades K-2nd. What an amazing experience! The amount of time you could give to each student led to greater gains for both me and the students. I quickly understood what obstacles were holding my students back, and what strengths could move them forward. Today, we are facing larger class sizes, with a very diverse class. The diversity is not only culturally, but academically. To meet every student's needs, teachers are stretched every which way. To ensure the best experience for all students, smaller class sizes are needed.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

